

Message

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**From:** Young, Nichole [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=DE6D7F1C18F94AEB89C71047E9772E42-YOUNG, NICH]  
**Sent:** 3/3/2023 4:00:56 PM  
**To:** Larsen, Brent [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8f36d5b7b5674c77a9262d3fa8edd72c-Larsen, Brent]  
**Subject:** RE: Need Your Help

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

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**From:** Larsen, Brent <Larsen.Brent@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 28, 2023 4:21 PM  
**To:** Young, Nichole <young.nichole@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Need Your Help

Nichole:

Any logical outgrowth hook to hang the change to since it was not in the draft that went to PN?

Brent

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**From:** Young, Nichole <young.nichole@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 28, 2023 1:42 PM  
**To:** Larsen, Brent <Larsen.Brent@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Need Your Help

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

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**From:** Larsen, Brent <Larsen.Brent@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 28, 2023 9:03 AM  
**To:** Young, Nichole <young.nichole@epa.gov>; Angove, Sharon <Angove.Sharon@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Need Your Help

So getting the OCS permit issued before May-June timeframe they need is really only viable option?

Brent

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**From:** Young, Nichole <young.nichole@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 28, 2023 8:45 AM  
**To:** Angove, Sharon <Angove.Sharon@epa.gov>; Larsen, Brent <Larsen.Brent@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Need Your Help

Im on travel Sharon and not available to meet until next week. Individual permit will take 6 months to get, so not sure that would be a viable option for them if they're wanting to discharge in June.

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**From:** Angove, Sharon <Angove.Sharon@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 27, 2023 3:09 PM  
**To:** Larsen, Brent <Larsen.Brent@epa.gov>; Young, Nichole <young.nichole@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Need Your Help

UT Austin only held coverage under our 2012 GMG290000 general permit.

They never held coverage under the 2017 GMG permit.

We do not carry any permit number into the next permit if they did not hold coverage for the past 5 years, which is the case of UT Austin.

Other than telling them to barge to shore any discharges for on-shore discharges, I don't know what else to advise UT Austin. They are not an oil and gas company; just a university conducting scientific stuff vs. drilling for oil and gas.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Sharon Angove*

Ms. Sharon Angove  
Environmental Protection/Offshore Specialist and  
Offshore Enforcement Officer  
Energy Sector Compliance Section (ECD-WE)  
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division (ECD)  
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500  
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[angove.sharon@epa.gov](mailto:angove.sharon@epa.gov)

**NEW Region 6 Offshore Enforcement web site, as of December 2022:**

<https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/western-and-central-gulf-mexico-offshore-oil-gas-npdes-program>

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**From:** Larsen, Brent <Larsen.Brent@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 27, 2023 2:54 PM  
**To:** Angove, Sharon <Angove.Sharon@epa.gov>; Young, Nichole <young.nichole@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Need Your Help  
**Importance:** High

Sharon:

# Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Sincerely,

Brent Larsen  
Supervisor, NPDES Permitting and Wetlands Section (6WQPE)  
EPA Region 6, Water Division  
1201 Elm St., Suite 500  
Dallas, TX 75270  
214-665-7523  
[larsen.brent@epa.gov](mailto:larsen.brent@epa.gov)

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**From:** Angove, Sharon <[Angove.Sharon@epa.gov](mailto:Angove.Sharon@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 27, 2023 2:07 PM  
**To:** Young, Nichole <[young.nichole@epa.gov](mailto:young.nichole@epa.gov)>; Larsen, Brent <[Larsen.Brent@epa.gov](mailto:Larsen.Brent@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Need Your Help  
**Importance:** High

Just following up on if you have had the opportunity to review and provide a response to my email below.

The individual from University of Texas, Austin has sent me another email asking for me to set up a TEAMS call with him to provide alternatives and to listen to his issues/concerns.

Their deadline to begin the scientific drilling is approaching and they need to know what their options are.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Sharon Angove*

Ms. Sharon Angove  
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[angove.sharon@epa.gov](mailto:angove.sharon@epa.gov)

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<https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/western-and-central-gulf-mexico-offshore-oil-gas-npdes-program>

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**From:** Angove, Sharon

**Sent:** Friday, February 24, 2023 7:51 AM

**To:** Young, Nichole <[young.nichole@epa.gov](mailto:young.nichole@epa.gov)>; Larsen, Brent <[Larsen.Brent@epa.gov](mailto:Larsen.Brent@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Need Your Help

**Importance:** High

I was not able to call either of you on TEAMS yesterday for assistance; TEAMS showed you as busy or not available.

I have been contacted by Jesse Houghton from the University of Texas at Austin. UT Austin gained coverage from us years ago for the GMG290000 general permit for a college project regarding the OCS General Permit. Coverage was granted and they filed their DMRs. The project concluded and the coverage was terminated. They kept their permit open just in case of future offshore projects.

In 2022 as we were preparing for the reissuance of the permit, we reviewed all permit numbers and terminated those that did not hold any coverage for 5+ years; UT Austin's permit was one such that we terminated. It is no longer available.

As such, I responded back to Jesse that their permit number had been terminated (for lack of coverage for 5+ years) and in light of the pending reissuance of the GMG290000 general permit.

I also told him that the permit has not been reissued and is in Admin Cont Status; therefore, he cannot gain new coverage/new permit number assignment. I advised him to submit a paper NOI and to get an account created in order to later file an electronic NOI once the permit has been reissued.

The coverage he needs is to be able to conduct scientific drilling in the Gulf of Mexico in May-June 2023. They have a contract with Helix ESG to conduct this project at the Helix Q4000 MODU.

He wants to meet with me to discuss options. I told him I need to consult with you two before I can meet with him.

Please advise what his options would be that I can advise him accordingly. He is willing to re-arrange his schedule to make room for a meeting with me as this is an important project for UT Austin.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Sharon Angove*

Ms. Sharon Angove  
Environmental Protection/Offshore Specialist and  
Offshore Enforcement Officer  
Energy Sector Compliance Section (ECD-WE)  
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division (ECD)  
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